

Cited Reference: Korean Patent Application Laid-Open No. 1999-13893
(U.S. 6728659)

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1-1. Claim 1 relates to an aggregating system for system diagnosis,
comprising: inputting means for receiving from a trap diagnotor an a result
of a trap operation diagnosis performed by this trap diagnotor for
diagnosing operational conditions of a plurality of evaluation target steam
traps and receiving from a leakage diagnotor result of a fluid leakage
10 diagnosis performed by this leakage diagnotor for diagnosing leakage of
fluid from respective portions of an evaluation target piping in the
evaluation target system; and calculating means for calculating, based on
the result of the trap operation diagnosis inputted to the inputting means, a
total trap-passed steam loss amount obtained by aggregating trap-passed
15 steam loss amounts for all the evaluation target steam traps and calculating,
based on the result of the fluid leakage diagnosis inputted to the inputting
means, a total fluid leakage loss amount obtained by aggregating fluid
leakage loss amounts from the respective portions of the piping for each
type of fluid.
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As compared with the cited reference, the functions of the inputting
means and the calculating means recited in claim 1 correspond respectively
to a trap check evaluation sequence used for evaluating one or more traps
included in a piping system and a valve check evaluation sequence executed
25 for evaluating one or more valves included in the piping system, in a system
check evaluation system configured for checking/evaluating a system
including one or more traps and one or more valves. While the cited
reference does not explicitly describe the matters of calculating a total
trap-passed steam loss amount and a total fluid leakage loss amount, the
30 meaning of evaluating system should be effecting, on an evaluation target,

determination of various factors such as a steam amount, a fluid leakage loss amount, and subsequent comparison of the results with reference data. Then, it should be possible to say that the description in the cited reference of effecting evaluation of traps and valves implicitly suggests the matters of determination and calculation of the total trap-passed steam loss amount and the total fluid leakage loss amount.. Further, as described also in the Prior Art Section in the detailed disclosure of the present application, calculation of the total trap-passed steam loss amount was well-known in the art, and the cited reference describes the matter of fluid leakage loss amounts through traps. Then, one skilled in the art could have easily achieved the functions of the inputting means and the calculating means recited in claim 1 of the present application, based on the trap check evaluation sequence and the valve check evaluation sequence disclosed in the cited reference.
